and 15 guntas of lands were leased out to the ryots of the neighbouring villages. The income from the lands leased out amounted to Rs. 1,187-8-0.

Education.

237. The Primary School attached to the Colony continued to cater to the educational needs of boy inmates and children of the staff. The total number of beggar boys who received education in the school in the first four primary classes was 28 on an average.

Recreation.

238. The Radio set and Bhajanas arranged periodically provided recreation facilities to the inmates of the Colony. Games such as football, Kolata were arranged for the boys and girls.

239. The receipt and expenditure of the Beggar Colony, Bangalore, were Rs. 2,234 and Rs. 76,516 respectively.

Local Relief Committee for the prevention of beggary, Mysore.

240. The Local Relief Committee has been working in Mysore City since May 1949. It consists of 12 members of which the President, City Municipal Council, Mysore, is the Chairman.

241. With the help of the Police Department, Wardens of the Beggars Home were being sent for scouting beggars in the City and beggars caught during such rounds were being brought to the Centre and after preliminary enquiries they were either let off after admonition or retained in the Centre or produced before the Magistrate according as they were found begging for the first time or second time. Such of the beggars as were ordered to be treated as permanent beggars were sent to the Beggars' Colony at Bangalore.

242. The Beggars' Home continued to be housed in the III Block of N. R. B. Choultry, Mysore.

243. The receipt and expenditure of the Local Relief Committee were Rs. 17,512 and Rs. 12,937 respectively.

(ix) Village Panchayets and Rural Development.

Village Panchayets and Rural Development.

244. The total number of Village Panchayets in the State during the year was 12,468 (12,756). The decrease is due to the conversion of some single Village Panchayets in Bangalore District into group Panchayets. The number of meetings held by the Village Panchayets was 37,512

PROTECTION

(29,084). Elections to the Panchayets were held during the last quarter of the year.

Demand, Collection and Balance of Village Panchayet Taxes.

245. Including the arrears, the total demand of Village Panchayet taxes amounted to Rs. 56,30,278 (52,74,967) of which a sum of Rs. 29,00,329 (26,95,600) was collected during the year, leaving a balance of Rs. 27,29,949 (Rs. 25,79,367) at the end of the year.

Financial Position of the Village Panchayets.

246. A sum of Rs. 70,05,654 (Rs. 42,81,349) was at the credit of the Village Panchayets at the beginning of the year. This, with the income for the year of Rs. 48,62,762 (Rs. 39,01,778) amounted to a total of Rs. 1,18,88,416 (Rs. 81,83,127), of which a sum of Rs. 43,52,837 (Rs. 16,87,164) was spent during the year, leaving a balance of Rs. 75,15,379 (Rs. 64,95,963) at the credit of the Village Panchayets at the end of the year.

247. A portion of the Land Revenue was assigned to the District Boards and Village Panchayets under the Village Panchayets and District Boards Act of 1952 as in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 1·07 lakhs was provided for Rural Health and Sanitation for the year and the major portion of the grant was spent during the year.

Rural Water Supply.

248. Nine hundred and sixty-nine (391) drinking water wells were completed during the year at an outlay of Rs. 7,06,588 (Rs. 1,84,554) and 2,294 (3,151) wells remained to be completed at the end of the year. These wells were under various stages of progress.

Public Works

249. A sum of Rs. 14,80 275 (Rs. 5,14,397) was spent during the year on the execution of Public Works.

Audit

250. The accounts of 820 (587) Village Panchayets were audited during the year.

Weekly Labour.

251. The system of weekly labour was in vogue in 637 (649) villages and the value of works done amounted to Rs. 2,23,759 (Rs. 1,04,105). One hundred and twenty-three (84) Village Panchayets laid out parks, 65 (24) Village Panchayets planted fruit gardens and 418 Village Panchayets planted shade trees and 35 (15) Village Panchayets arranged weekly visits of doctors. Ninety-seven (65) Village Panchayets were managing village forests. One thousand nine hundred and eighty (1,871) Village Panchayets have libraries or reading rooms functioning. Two hundred Village Panchayets have availed

themselves of electric power and 588 Village Panchayets maintained sweeping establishments.

Local Development Works.

252. During the year, 1,411 works at a cost of Rs. 35,24,637 under 'Local Development Works' were sanctioned for execution by the Village Panchayets under the scheme sponsored by the Planning Commission which included construction of roads, drains, community halls and drinking water wells. The works remaining over at the end of the previous year, were also taken up during the year. The total outlay incurred was Rs. 17,87,225 on these works.

(x) Amelioration of the condition of the Depressed Classes.

253. A separate Department set up during 1953-54 for looking after the work of amelioration of Depressed Classes with a Commissioner as the Head of the Department was continued during the year.

Depressed Class Housing.

254. A sum of Rs. 17·00 lakhs was provided in the Budget for the year for the formation of extensions and grant of subventions for construction of houses etc., for the benefit of the Depressed Classes. Of this, a sum of Rs. 5,94,000 was set apart for construction of hostel buildings for the Depressed Class Students. The construction of the hostel buildings at Kolar, Mysore, Tumkur and Nanjangud which was taken up during 1953-54 was under progress. The construction of another hostel at Sirigere in Chitaldrug was taken up during the year. A sum of Rs. 10,31,562 was spent for construction of houses. Four thousand seven-hundred and eleven houses were completed and 6,411 (4814) houses were still under construction. The construction of a Bhajanmandir at Shantigrama, Hassan Taluk, was completed during the year and the building at Dommaningala, Channarayapatna Taluk, was under completion. A total extent of 10, 731 (10,877) acres of land was granted during the year.

Welfare scheme for the upliftment of Scheduled Tribes.

255. A sum of Rs. 1,94,058 was spent during the year under this scheme for providing houses, schools and hostels and a health unit and supply of bullocks, cloth and